

PETUNIA PLANT NAMED 'SUNBAPIVE'

## BOTANICAL/COMMERCIAL CLASSIFICATION

*Petunia hybrida*/Petunia Plant

5

VARIETAL DENOMINATION

cv. 'Sunbapive'

## BACKGROUND OF THE VARIETY

10           The present invention relates to a new and distinct variety of petunia plant originated from the crossing a seedling called 'Fantasy Crystal Red' (♀) and a wild type Petunia plant called '1792' (♂).

15           The Petunia is a very popular plant that is used for flower bedding and potting in the summer season. There are only a few Petunia varieties which do not have an upright growth habit and which have a high resistance to rain, heat, and diseases. The Petunia plants of the

20   'Revolution' series include 'Revolution Purple pink' (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 6,915), 'Revolution Brilliant pink' (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 6,914), 'Revolution Brilliant pink-mini' (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 6,899), and 'Revolution Blue vein' (U.S. Plant Pat. No. 9,322). These are decumbent

25   type plants having long stems, a lower plant height, abundant branching, and a high resistance to heat, rain and disease. However, there are only a few Petunia varieties having a great profusion of flowers, vivid colored and vein patterned flower petals and a high

30   resistance to rain, heat, and diseases. Accordingly, this invention was aimed at obtaining a new variety having vivid purple pink colored petals with vivid reddish purple vein together with the above features.

35           The new variety of petunia plant according to this invention originated from crossing a seedling called

'Fantasy Crystal Red' (♀) and a wild type Petunia plant called '1792' (♂). The seed of 'Fantasy Crystal Red' was bought from Sakata Seed Ltd. '1792' (non-patented in the United States) is a decumbent, wild type Petunia plant native to Brazil.

In April 1998, crossing 'Fantasy Crystal Red' as female parent and '1792' as pollen parent was conducted at the Omi R&D Center, Suntory Flowers Ltd. In January 1999, 120 seedlings were obtained from that crossing. These seedlings were grown in pots under glass and tested. One individual plant was selected in view of its decumbent growth habit and its flower color. That seedling was propagated by cutting from July 1999, and a trial by flower potting and bedding was carried out from April 2000, at the Omi R&D Center, Suntory Flowers Ltd. The botanical characteristics of that plant were then examined, using similar varieties 'Revolution Pinkvein' (US Plant Pat. No. 9,341) and 'Revolution Marrose' (US Plant Pat. No. 10,904) for comparison. As a result, it was concluded that this petunia plant is distinguishable from any other variety whose existence is known to us, and is uniform and stable in its characteristics. The new variety of petunia plant was named 'Sunbapive'.

In the following description, the color-coding is in accordance with the Horticultural Color Chart of The Royal Horticultural Society, London, England (R.H.S. Color Chart).

The female parent used in the crossing of 'Sunbapive' called 'Fantasy Crystal Red' has an erect growth habit while that of the new variety is decumbent. The branching is fewer than the new variety. It has small single flowers, the petals having a vivid red (R.H.S. 52A) color with strong red (R.H.S. 53C) vein. The bottom

color of the corolla throat is dark red (R.H.S. 183A) and outside color of the corolla tube is moderate red (R.H.S. 181B).

5           The main botanical characteristics of 'Fantasy Crystal Red' are as follows:

Plant:

Growth habit.-- Erect.

Plant height.-- Approximately 15.5 cm.

10          Spreading area of plant.-- Small.

Blooming period.-- April to July in the southern Kanto area, Japan

Stem:

Length.-- Approximately 9.5 cm.

15          Thickness.-- Main stem approximately 2.8 mm.

Pubescence.-- Sparse.

Branching.-- Medium.

Internode length.-- Approximately 2.2 cm.

Color.-- Light yellow green (R.H.S. 145C).

20          Leaf:

Whole shape.-- Elliptic. The apex shape is acute, and the base shape is attenuate.

Length. -- Approximately 3.2 cm.

Width.-- Approximately 2.2 cm.

25          Color.-- Upper-side color is strong yellow green (R.H.S. 144A). Bottom-side color is moderate yellow green (R.H.S. 147B).

Pubescence.-- Sparse.

Flower:

30          Facing direction.-- Slightly slantly upward.

Type.-- Single.

Shape.-- Funnel-shape, with five-fissured limb.

Shape of petal chip.-- Obtuse.

Lobation.-- Medium.

35          Waving of petal.-- Weak.

Diameter.-- Approximately 4.5 cm.

Color.-- Petal; vivid red (R.H.S. 52A) with strong red

(R.H.S. 53C) vein. Bottom color of the corolla throat; dark red (R.H.S. 183A). Outside color of the corolla tube; moderate red (R.H.S. 181B).

5       Reproductive organs.-- 1 normal pistil and 5 normal  
stamens. Color of pistil is vivid yellow green (R.H.S. 144B). Color of stamen is pale yellow (R.H.S. 158C).

      Peduncle.-- Approximately 1.0 mm in thickness, and approximately 1.0 cm in length.

10       Physiological and ecological characteristics;--  
Moderate resistance to cold, rain, pests and disease.

15       The male parent '1792' used in the crossing of  
'Sunbapive' was a wild type petunia plant originated from  
Brazil. The petunia plant '1792' having a decumbent  
growth habit with long stems and many branches. The leaf  
is very small without petiole. It has very small single  
flower, the petals having a yellowish white (R.H.S. 158D)  
color with strong reddish purple (R.H.S. 72B) vein.

20       The main botanical characteristics of the '1792' are  
as follows:

Plant:

      Growth habit.-- Decumbent.

      Plant height.-- Approximately 5.5 cm.

25       Spreading area of plant.-- Large.

      Blooming period.-- May to August in the southern Kanto  
area, Japan

Stem:

      Length.-- 15.0 cm.

30       Thickness.-- Approximately 1.3 mm.

      Pubescence.-- Normal.

      Branching.-- Many.

      Internode length.-- Approximately 1.0 cm.

      Color.-- Strong yellow green (R.H.S. 144B).

35       Leaf:

      Whole shape.-- Elliptic. The apex shape is acute, and  
the base shape is attenuate.

Length.-- Approximately 2.5 cm.

Width.-- Approximately 1.5 cm.

Color.-- Upper-side color is strong yellow green  
(R.H.S. 143A). Bottom-side color is moderate yellow green  
5 (R.H.S. 147B).

Pubescence.-- Sparse.

Flower:

Facing direction.-- Horizontal.

Type.-- Single.

10 Shape.-- Funnel-shape, with five-fissured limb.

Shape of petal chip. -- Rounded.

Lobation.-- Shallow

Waving of petal.-- Weak.

Diameter.-- Approximately 4.3 cm.

15 Color.-- Petal; Yellowish White (R.H.S. 158D) with  
strong reddish purple (R.H.S. 72B) vein. Bottom color of  
the corolla throat; greenish white (R.H.S. 155C). Outside  
color of the corolla tube; brilliant yellow green (R.H.S.  
145B).

20 Reproductive organs.-- 1 normal pistil and 5 normal  
stamens. Color of pistil is strong yellow green (R.H.S.  
144B). Color of stamen is light olive gray (R.H.S. 197C).

Peduncle.-- Approximately 1.0 mm in thickness, and  
approximately 2.4 cm in length.

25 Physiological and ecological characteristics;--  
Moderate resistance to cold and pest. Strong resistance  
to rain, heat and diseases.

30 The main botanical characteristics of similar  
variety 'Revolution Pinkvein' used for examination as  
comparison are as follows:

Plant:

Growth habit.-- Decumbent.

Plant height.-- Approximately 14.5 cm.

35 Spreading area of plant.-- Large

Blooming period.-- May to August in the southern Kanto  
area, Japan

Stem:

Length.-- Approximately 15 cm.

Thickness.-- Main stem approximately 1.6 mm.

Pubescence.-- Normal.

5      Branching.-- Many.

Internode length.-- Approximately 0.6 cm.

Color.-- Strong yellow green (R.H.S. 144B).

Leaf:

10      Whole shape.-- Elliptic. The apex shape is acute, and  
the base shape is attenuate.

Length.-- Approximately 7.9 cm.

Width.-- Approximately 3.5 cm.

15      Color.-- Upper-side color is dark yellow green (R.H.S.  
146A). Bottom-side color is moderate yellow green (R.H.S.  
147B).

Pubescence.-- Normal.

Flower:

Facing direction.-- Slantly upward.

Type.-- Single.

20      Shape.-- Funnel-shape, with five-fissured limb.

Shape of petal chip.-- Rounded.

Lobation.-- Shallow.

Waving of petal.-- Weak.

Diameter.-- Approximately 5.2 cm.

25      Color.-- Petal; Deep purplish pink (R.H.S. 70C) with  
strong reddish purple (R.H.S. 72A) vein. Bottom color of  
the corolla throat is dark reddish purple (R.H.S. 79A).  
Outside color of the corolla tube is light reddish purple  
(R.H.S. 78C).

30      Reproductive organs.-- 1 normal pistil and 5 normal  
stamens. Color of pistil is grayish olive green (R.H.S.  
137A). Color of stamen is deep purple (R.H.S. 86A).

Peduncle.-- Approximately 1.6 mm in thickness, and  
approximately 1.8 cm in length.

35      Physiological and ecological characteristics;-- Strong  
resistance to cold, heat, rain and diseases. Moderate  
resistance to pests.

The main botanical characteristics of similar variety 'Revolution Marrose' used for examination as comparison are as follows:

5 Plant:

Growth habit.-- Decumbent.

Plant height.-- Approximately 20 cm.

Spreading area of plant.-- Large

10 Blooming period.-- April to September in the southern Kanto area, Japan

Stem:

Length.-- Approximately 20 cm.

Thickness.-- Main stem approximately 3.0 mm.

Pubescence.-- Normal.

15 Branching.-- Many.

Internode length.-- Approximately 3.0 cm.

Color.-- Light yellow green (R.H.S. 145C)

Leaf:

20 Whole shape.-- Lanceolate. The apex shape is acute, and the base shape is attenuate.

Length. -- Approximately 5.5 cm.

Width.-- Approximately 3.5 cm.

25 Color.-- Upper-side color is dark yellow green (R.H.S.146A). Bottom-side color is moderate yellow green (R.H.S. 147B).

Pubescence.-- Normal.

Flower:

Facing direction.-- Slantly upward.

Type.-- Single.

30 Shape.-- Funnel-shape, with five-fissured limb.

Shape of petal chip.-- Acute.

Lobation.-- Medium

Waving of petal.-- Weak.

Diameter.-- Approximately 7.5 cm.

35 Color.-- Petal; strong purplish pink (R.H.S. 61D) with red purple (R.H.S. 79B) vein. Bottom color of the corolla throat; deep purple (R.H.S. 86A). Outside color of the

corolla tube; strong purplish pink (R.H.S. 61D).

Reproductive organs.-- 1 normal pistil and 5 normal stamens. Color of pistil is grayish olive green (R.H.S. 137A). Color of stamen is deep purple (R.H.S. 86A).

5 Peduncle.-- Approximately 1.5 mm in thickness, and approximately 2.0 cm in length.

Physiological and ecological characteristics;-- Strong resistance to cold, heat, rain and diseases. Moderate resistance to pests.

10

#### SUMMARY OF THE VARIETY

The new variety of the petunia plant has a decumbent growth habit, abundant branches and a great profusion of  
15 blooms with the whole plant remaining in bloom for a considerable period of time. The flowers are single and small. The petal color is deep purplish pink with strong reddish purple vein. The plant has a high resistance to rain, cold, heat and diseases.

20

#### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPH

FIG. 1 is a photograph of flowers and leaves of the new variety of Petunia plant 'Sunbapive'.

25 FIG. 2 is a close-up photograph of flowers of the new variety of Petunia plant 'Sunbapive'.

#### DESCRIPTION OF THE NEW VARIETY

30 The botanical characteristics of the new and distinct variety of Petunia plant named 'Sunbapive' are as follows.

Plant:

Growth habit.-- Decumbent.

35 Plant height.-- Approximately 21 cm.

Spreading area of plant.-- Large.

Blooming period.-- Early April to late October in the



southern Kanto area, Japan. The plant shape does not change throughout this period. A typical flower commonly lasts approximately 5 days on the plant when experiencing a temperature of approximately 20°C.

5 Stem:

Length.-- Approximately 15 cm.

Thickness.-- Approximately 2.2 mm.

Pubescence.-- Normal.

Branching.-- Many.

10 Internode length.-- Approximately 2.5 cm.

Color.-- Light yellow green (R.H.S. 145C).

Leaf:

Whole shape.-- Lanceolate. The apex shape is acute, and the base shape is attenuate.

15 Length.-- Approximately 4.6 cm.

Width.-- 2.1 cm.

Color.-- Upper side color is dark yellow green (R.H.S. 146A). Bottom side color is moderate yellow green (R.H.S. 147B).

20 Thickness.-- Approximately 0.7 mm.

Pubescence.-- Normal.

Flower:

Facing direction.-- Slantly upward

Type.-- Single.

25 Shape.-- Funnel-shape, with five-fissured limb.

Shape of petal chip.-- Rounded.

Lobation.-- Shallow

Waving of petal.-- Weak.

Diameter.-- Approximately 4.5 cm.

30 Color.-- Petal; deep purplish pink (R.H.S. 68A) with strong reddish purple (R.H.S. 72B) vein. Bottom color of the corolla throat; dark purple (R.H.S. 79A). Outside color of the corolla tube; moderate purple (R.H.S. 83B).

35 Reproductive organs.-- 1 normal pistil and 5 normal stamens. Color of pistil is grayish yellow green (R.H.S. 137A). Color of stamen is deep purple (R.H.S. 86A).

Peduncle.-- Approximately 1 mm in diameter and

approximately 1.5 cm in length.

Physiological and ecological characteristics;-- High resistance to rain, cold, heat and diseases. Moderate resistance to pests.

5

This new variety of Petunia plant is most suitable for flower bedding and potting, particularly in hanging pots or planters, and is excellent for use as ground cover. Pinching of old blossoms will enhance the formation of new blossoms.

10